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IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DECLARATION ON
THE GRANTING OF INDEPENDENCE TO
COLONIAL COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES
HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 22 November 1991 from the Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I should like to convey to you the text of a statement of the Portuguese Government on Indonesia's appointed "Commission of Enquiry" into the Dili massacre (see annex).

I would be grateful if you could kindly arrange for the text of the present letter and its annex to be circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 19 and 98, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Fernando REINO
Ambassador of Portugal
Permanent Representative to the
United Nations

ANNEX

Statement of the Government of Portugal on Indonesia's appointed "Commission of Enquiry" into the Dili massacre

The Indonesian Government, yelling apparently to the international outcry of protests over the vile massacre by its military of East-Timorese defenceless civilians, on 12 November, in Dili, appointed a so-called "Commission of Enquiry", chaired by a member of the Supreme Court, who happens to be a retired General, comprising members attached to or dependent on the Government.

(1) Indonesia, which is occupying by force and illegally, in violation of resolutions adopted by both the General Assembly and the Security Council of the United Nations, the non-self-governing territory of East Timor, under Portuguese administration, recognized as such by the United Nations, lacks any legitimacy whatsoever to conduct such an enquiry;

(2) The aforesaid "Commission", moreover, does not meet any of the necessary requirements of credibility and impartiality and will, therefore, convert the indispensable investigation to be carried out on such a brutal violation of the most basic human rights into a mockery;

(3) Portugal strongly rejects any validity to this act of the Indonesian Government and reiterates its position that only an independent investigation, conducted under international supervision, will be legitimate and capable to ensure the seriousness imperatively required in those proceedings.